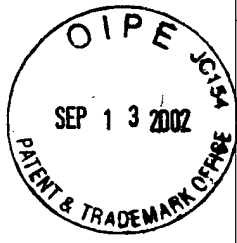


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Attorney Docket No. 02734.0495



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:)
)
Paul J. RUTHVEN et al.) Group Art Unit: 2854
)
Application No.: 10/036,770) Examiner: Unassigned
)
Filed: December 21, 2004)
)
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR)
DEGRADING A WEB IN THE)
MACHINE DIRECTION WHILE)
PRESERVING CROSS-MACHINE)
DIRECTION STRENGTH)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. A Copy of the listed document is attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner apply the document as prior art against

any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 13, 2002

By: 

Barry D. Biddle
Reg. No. 44,033

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